

Baptist Work Gets Hot In Tamale

TAMALE, Ghana (BP) — Baptist work in Northern Ghana has experienced breakthroughs into new areas after years of work confined to the Mumpruli and Dagomba tribes in this West African nation.

One of the fastest growing efforts involves the Tampula people, reports Dean E. Richardson, Southern Baptist missionary press representative for the Ghana Baptist Mission (organization of missionaries). For some time, Baptists have had limited work with this tribe about 40 miles west of Tamale, but Richardson says that in the past year "the work has caught fire."

"Spearheaded by an evangelistic pastor, Peter Wusah, and helped by literacy and translations efforts, two new churches are flourishing, and the door is wide open for many more," Richardson says.

The Richardsons and other missionaries are trying to guide the work from Tamale while keeping up with their original assignments, but they feel the need for a fulltime worker there soon.

In the Nalerigu area 150 miles northeast of the Tampulas, the work of Southern Baptist missionary Urban L. Green and his associates has resulted in new churches among two other tribes, the Bimoba and Konkomba. The Bimobas are especially anxious for Baptists to expand in their area, Richardson said. Because missionaries on the staff of Baptist Medical Centre in Nalerigu cover the work on a part-time basis, their ministry and witness is limited to weekends and occasional nights.

February CP Tally Shows Gain

Cooperative Program gifts for February of \$797,367 from churches affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention have pushed the total income for the year past the budget figure, according to an announcement by Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer.

The prorated budget for two months on the annual budget of \$8,636,000 would be \$1,439,333. The total gifts for the two-month period were \$1,464,097, or \$24,764 more than the budget. This is an increase of 18.2 percent over the total gifts of \$1,238,935 for the first two months of 1977, Kelly noted.

February was the second month this year in which total gifts have been more than \$100,000 above the same month of 1977. For February of 1978 the total was \$113,614 more than the February 1977 total of \$683,753. The January 1978 total of \$666,730, while less than the monthly budget figure of \$719,667, was still \$111,548 above the gifts for January 1977, Kelly pointed out. The January gifts were 20.1 percent above those of 1977, and the February gifts were 16.6 percent higher.

"Mississippi has always been a missions-minded state," Kelly said. This strong beginning in the 1978 budget year indicates that Mississippi Baptists will continue to be concerned about and supportive of our total missions effort."

Morton, Broadmoor Churches Operate Spanish-Speaking Ministry

First Baptist Church, Morton, and Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, are involved in a cooperative ministry to the Spanish-speaking workers who are work in the chicken industry in the Morton area.

The Morton church is the focal point of the ministry. Broadmoor gets involved because its assistant pastor, Curtis Ferrell, who is the pastor to the Spanish congregation at Broadmoor, goes to Morton twice a month for services.

Ferrell goes on the second and fourth Thursdays and meets with a group of 18 to 30 of the Spanish-speaking workers for Bible study. On those evenings different groups in the Morton church provide meals for the meetings. The Gideons have furnished Spanish New Testaments, and the group spends the time in singing, Bible study, and a snack meal.

First Church, Morton, also helps with clothes for the workers.

The Spanish-speaking people have been in the area about six months, Ferrell said. They are mostly migrant workers, but some have made professions of faith since the program has been in operation. Their movement out of the area, however, has prevented any from being baptized.

In Bolgatanga, the regional capital of Ghana's upper region, and nearby Zuarungu, two churches among the Frafra people have been encouraged by a substantial number of conversions during recently revivals led by Southern Baptist missionaries Calvin Y. Sarver and Tollie M. Bibb. A field evangelist, Joe D. Perkins, also has been appointed for this area.

But neither of the two churches, the only Baptist churches in the entire upper region, has a pastor, and they are visited only occasionally by various missionaries attached to the Baptist Medical Centre more than 100 miles away. Islam and paganism are powerful forces here, said Richardson, who requested prayer for more missionaries to take advantage of the breakthroughs in Ghana and for young men from the tribes to feel the call of God to fulltime pastoral service.

Soviets Accuse Vins' Son Of "Parasitism" In Kiev

GENEVA (RNS) — Peter Vins, 20-year-old son of the imprisoned Soviet Baptist leader Georgi Vins, was arrested at his home in Kiev after completing formalities for his projected emigration to Canada.

The young Vins was said to have an invitation from relatives in Canada which has been notarized by the Soviet embassy there.

The arrest was the second in three months for Peter Vins. He was arrested in December while going from Kiev to Moscow to participate in a human rights demonstration. He spent several weeks in jail, but was released without facing charges.

Soviet officials now appear determined to prosecute Peter Vins on charges of "parasitism," according to reports from Kiev. The term applies to persons who have no visible means of support. If he is convicted, he will not be able to leave the country until his sentence is served.

"Parasitism" is a charge frequently used to detain unemployed dissidents — who lose their jobs in the first place and cannot get employment because they are considered security risks by the Soviet government.

Peter Vins is an electrical technician who has been unable to secure employment. He lost his last job on the grounds that he was a security risk because of his father's conviction.

Pastor Georgi Vins, 50, leader of the unregistered Reform Baptists, was sentenced to five years in a labor camp in 1975 on charges of inciting citizens to commit "illegal acts" — holding unauthorized prayer meetings. He is

'Living Proof' Among Top 100 Commercials In 1977

DALLAS (BP) — Texas Baptists' "Living Proof" testimonies carried statewide on television last winter have been named in the "100 best" commercials of 1977 by "Advertising Age" magazine.

Production costs for the nine "Living Proof" TV spots featuring Christian testimonies of well known people, averaged about \$10,000 each. By comparison, another commercial which made the "100 best," promoting a popular brand of denim, cost more than \$250,000, "Advertising Age" reported in its Jan. 30 edition.

Sometimes five or six workers in the Spanish congregation at Broadmoor go with Ferrell to Morton. One who always goes, Ferrell said, is Raul Garcia, a Cuban native who works at the Baptist Building in Jackson. On Sundays about 15 of the Spanish speaking come from the Morton area by van to attend church services at Broadmoor. Many of the workers who can speak

Tax Credit Plan

Bill Earmarks Tax Money For Private Education

By W. Barry Garrett

WASHINGTON (BP) — A Baptist leader in Washington is calling on citi-

zens of all faiths to mount a massive protest campaign to members of Congress against what he said is one of the

most destructive tax proposals in the nation's history — the income tax credit plan for tuition paid to private elementary and second schools as well as to colleges.

James E. Wood Jr., executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, charged that "the bill is a threat to the basic guarantees of the First Amendment" to the U. S. Constitution and that "its consequences on the future course of American public policy are incalculable."

"Now is the time to express opposition to this plan of federal aid to parochial and other nonpublic schools," Wood said. He urged an immediate flood of communications to every member of the House of Representatives and of the Senate.

Wood is not alone in his opposition to the tuition tax credit plan. He is joined by the Carter administration, the Washington Post, the National Education Association, Americans United for Separation of Church and State and other forces dedicated to a strong public school education policy and to preservation of religious liberty and separation of church and state.

chaired by Sen. Russell B. Long, D-La., voted 14-1 to attach a tuition tax credit provision as a substitute for the provisions of H. R. 3946, a bill dealing with the rate of duty on certain coarse improved and unimproved wool.

Provisions
Under the committee provision, refundable education tax credits would be allowed as follows:

—Effective Aug. 1, 1978, tuition payments for full-time vocational and college undergraduate students would be eligible for a tax credit amounting to 50 percent of the tuition payment up to \$500 (a maximum of \$250 per student).

—Effective Aug. 1, 1980, the tax credit would also apply to tuition payments for elementary and secondary students (parochial and other private schools). In addition, the amount of the credit would be increased to 50 percent of the tuition and fees up to \$1,000 (a maximum credit of \$500 per student).

—Effective Aug. 1, 1981, the tax credit would be extended to tuition paid for graduate and part-time students.

Recognizing that the proposal might

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scheduled for release from a labor camp in March 1979, but is subject to exile to a remote area of the USSR until 1984.

Peter Vins was arrested in December on a train on his way to a demonstration and vigil in Moscow in observance of Human Rights Day, Dec. 10.

Soviet authorities placed more than 20 dissidents under house arrest, but some 25 others reportedly took part in

Five Year Plan

Baptism Decline Linked To Sunday School Drop

NASHVILLE (BP) — Calling for an increased "growth consciousness," Robert G. Fulbright, director of the Sunday School Board's Bible teaching division, has presented to employees a five-year plan for increasing Sunday School enrollment across the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

The five-year plan calls for an increase in Sunday School enrollment of 12 percent, to 8.3 million, by 1982. To achieve this, enrollment must average a gain of 178,106 each year. Enrollment now stands at 7.4 million.

Fulbright said that to achieve the goals would require Sunday School department employees to make a "per-

sonal commitment to growth consciousness." He also said growth would have a high visibility in Sunday School periodicals and fields services.

Introduction of the growth plan was motivated by the fact that Sunday School enrollment declined last year for the first time in three years. The plan also is part of the Sunday School Board's commitment to the SBC Bold Mission Thrust emphasis.

Fulbright speculated that one reason for last year's Sunday School decline was that baptisms decreased 10.2 percent. "This years we have increased enrollment are the years the denomination has increased in baptisms. Our objective is to reach lost people for Christ and meaningful church membership," he said.

Fulbright said growth will be achieved by continued emphasis on Bible study that changes lives and the use of varied growth approaches.

He noted that 34,000 persons were reached last year through 561 new Sunday schools. He cited the cradle roll plan for ministering to expectant parents and families of infants as having great potential for reaching people.

"One problem in the past has been that too many of our enlargement efforts have been aimed at the same target group," he said. Ministry to ethnic and language groups, bus outreach and fellowship Bible classes were among the other growth approaches he identified.

Fulbright said state convention personnel had been fully involved in developing the five-year plan and are committed to working with the board in leading Sunday Schools to grow.

MC Law Dean Resigns Post

Mrs. Mary Libby Payne, dean of the Mississippi College School of Law, has requested that she be relieved of her administrative duties due to health reasons, it was announced this week by Lewis Nobles, college president.

In accepting the letter of resignation, Nobles expressed his appreciation for the outstanding leadership and sincere commitment to Mississippi College that Dean Payne brought to her job.

Law Professor E. A. Turnage has been appointed by Nobles as acting dean during the interim until a new dean has been selected.

In her letter of resignation Dean Payne noted that she "looks forward to serving the students as a teacher and counselor, and the faculty and administration as a colleague." She will continue to serve as a full-time faculty member.

Both the resignation and the interim appointment will be submitted to the

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And It Sounds Like This

Imarto Wirawan, editor of a Baptist magazine in Indonesia, discusses a hymn he wrote with Southern Baptist missionary Mary Alice Ditsworth, a Mississippian, and music editor at Indonesian Baptist Literature Society. Wirawan's hymn was one of 25 selected to be published in a pocket-size hymnal soon to be released. All the hymns were written by Indonesian Christians. Several of the hymns will be included in a major new hymnal scheduled for publication by Indonesian Baptists in late 1980. (FMB) photo by Y. Stridati

Scriptures Are Now In 1,631 Languages

NEW YORK — To over 200,000 residents of the borderland areas between Kenya and Uganda, 1977 was a special year. This was the year that the Dhopadhola - speaking people received a translation of Paul's epistle to the Ephesians, the very first book of the Bible printed in their own language.

By the end of 1977, at least one book of the Bible had been published in 1,631 of the world's languages and distinct dialects, according to the American Bible Society's annual Scripture language count released Feb. 28.

Twenty-eight languages which have never appeared on this list before were reported for the first time. Among these are seven languages spoken in Papua - New Guinea, three in Indonesia, and others in countries stretching from Nepal to Argentina.

On the Solomon Islands a tiny community of 4,000 people speaking Kahua received the Gospel of Mark in their own language.

Entire Bibles were published for the first time in four languages, including some of those spoken in Mexico, Nigeria and Indonesia.

The annual survey also indicated that the complete Bible is now available in 266 languages, the New Testament in 420, and Portions of Scripture in 945.

Geographically, Africa has the largest number of languages (480) in which at least one book of the Bible has been published since the invention of

printing, Asia has 421 such languages, while Latin America has 265, the Australia - South Pacific region 226, Europe 176, and North America 61. Esperanto and Volapuk, commonly-called international languages, are also included in the total of 1,631 languages.

These 1,631 languages represent those spoken by 98 per cent of the world's population, though only a little over half of the 3,000 known languages and distinct dialects are included.

Quoted

Repentance, the oft-preached keynote of personal redemption, is likewise the key to redeeming a polluted environment, W. David Sapp of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, told an environmental conference in Nashville. "Repentance," he explained, "means turning around. In relation to our polluting, it means to stop it. And it means to start cleaning it up. It means to become a co-worker with God in the process of redeeming nature. To sin is to have violated God — not just to have violated his law, but to have violated his intention, his work, his person," Sapp said. "The environmental sinner is responsible and answerable to the God whose property he or she has abused."



A Spanish-speaking service in progress at Broadmoor Church, Jackson.

BSU Appoints A Whopping 58 To Summer Missions

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BSU Appoints Whopping 58 To Summer Missions



Buckner



McCarty



Nash



Ratliff



Smith



Puckett



Briscoe



Banks



Gregory



Lee



Edwards



Stone



Lyle



Smith



King



Dent



Martin



Staggs



Jones



Coats



Travis



Chisolm



Ray



Wade



Compere



Taylor



Fairchild



Redd



Blackstock



Houston



Peach



Hudson



Sullivan



Morgan



Underwood



Davis



Cole



Anders



Waters



Hindsman



Davis



Barber



Alderson



Swartz



Ratcliff



Shaw



Thomas



Parks



Richardson



Walker



Cassibry



Balch



Ray



Townsend



Moore



Smith



Mooneyhan



Morgan

Foreign
Missions

Home
Missions

The Mississippi Baptist Student Union Missions Committee has appointed 58 students to serve in 1978 as student summer missionaries.

The committee, composed of college students and campus ministers, represented the 26 college and university campuses in the state which have Baptist student union work.

Appointed to work in eight foreign countries and 22 states, the 58 students will work in jobs ranging from nursing in India and Rhodesia, to inner city recreation in Baltimore and New York City.

The missions program is designed for Baptist college and university students to share their Christian faith in special mission assignments which are provided by the Southern Baptist Home and Foreign Mission Boards.

Funds for travel and expenses for the 58 students most of whom will serve ten week terms in the summer, come from participating students in the 26 campuses which have active BSU groups. Students have set a goal of \$40,000 for student missions in 1978. Last year the students raised more than \$30,000 to support 49 student summer missionaries.

The missions committee, which interviewed candidates for three solid days, included: Steve Gardner, USM, chairman; John Stanley, MC; Elisha Adams, MSU; Lawanda Brown, Ole Miss; Jackie Winters, WMC; Nancy Aulds, BMC, campus minister; and John Summer, Jones Junior College, campus minister.

Two special teams are included in the summer assignments. Two students, will serve on a 20-student team which will share Christ with students in Southeast Asia through music, preaching, tract distribution, testimony, and revivals in Hong Kong, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, and they will perform at the Baptist World Youth Congress in Manila, Philippines.

The other team is made up of five Mississippi students who will sing and witness in a special evangelism project in Kenya, Africa.

Three students will serve in Mississippi: two at two campuses of the Baptist Children's Village in Jackson and Independence, and one at the Jackson Juvenile Detention Center.

\$3,100 of the student missions fund is earmarked for special missions projects other than summer.

Ralph Winders is director of the Mississippi Baptist Department of Student Work, which oversees the Baptist work on Mississippi campuses.

To Southeast Asia: John Buckner, Starkville, MSU, and Deborah McCarty, Pontotoc, BMC. To Bangladesh: Van Stone, Marks, MC. To India: Janet Lyle, Jackson, Ole Miss.

To Israel: Paula Smith, North Carolina, WCC. To Kenya, Tom Martin, Yazoo City, MC; Kathy Staggs, Eupora, Ole Miss; Ann Jones, Brookhaven, MC; Daryl Coats, Soso, USM, and LuAnne Travis, Blue Mountain, BMC. To East Malaysia: Don Dent, Holly Springs, MC. To Rhodesia: Trudy Nash, Jackson, Ole Miss. To Trinidad: Martin King, Cleveland, MC. To Alaska: Becky Ratliff, Jackson, MSU, and Steve Smith, Hattiesburg, Jones Junior College.

To California: Vidonia Puckett, Morton, Jones Junior College; Mary Briscoe, Holly Springs, MC; Paul Banks, Gainesville, GA, MC; and Mark Gregory, Carthage, MSU. To Colorado: Vivian Lee, Long Beach, USM. To Georgia: Angela Edwards, Belden, Itawamba Junior College, and Steve Chisolm, Enterprise, Jones Junior College.

To Illinois: Gloria Ray, Clinton, MC; and Tony Wade, Soso, Jones Junior College. To Indiana: Laura Compere, Terry, MUW, and Jennie Taylor, West Point, MC. To Kansas/Nebraska: Ruth Fairchild, Moselle, Jones Junior

College. To Kentucky: Bernice Balch, Laurel, Jones Junior College. To Maryland: Jane Blackstock, Columbus, USM, and Doug Houston, Starkville, MSU.

To Michigan: Emily Peach, Saltillo, MUW, and Melissa Hudson, Bunkie, LA, MC. To Minnesota/Wisconsin, Larry Redd, Pensacola, FL, USM. To Missouri: Tim Sullivan, Jackson, Ole Miss, and Debbie Morgan, Southaven, MSU. To Nevada: Susan Underwood, Douglasville, GA, USM.

To New England: Jimmy Davis, Hattiesburg, USM; Vickie Mooneyhan, Yazoo City, MSU; John Cole, Raleigh, Jones Junior College; Stan Anders, Brandon, MC, and Tanya Waters, Pontotoc, Ole Miss. To New York: Debbie Hindsman, Vivian, LA, MC, and Robert Davis, Ocean Springs, USM.

To Northern Plains: Joe Barber, Clinton, MC; Shirley Alderson, Wardell, MO, BMC, and Barry Swartz, Tupelo, Itawamba Junior College. To Northwest: Susan Ratcliff, Gulfport, WCC; Ken Shaw, Louisville, USM; Jan Thomas, Vicksburg, MSU, and Marilyn Parks, New Albany, DSU.

To Pennsylvania: Kay Richardson, Fajardo, Puerto Rico, MC, and Millie Townsend, Columbus, MSU. To South Carolina: Beth Walker, Ripley, BMC. To Virginia: Kay Cassibry, Gulf Breeze, FL, MC. To Utah/Idaho: Peggy Ray, Jackson, MSU.

To Jackson, MS, Children's Village: Linda Moore, Biloxi, Gulf Coast Junior College. To Independence, MS, Children's Village: Barbara Smith, Greenville, MC. To Jackson, MS, Detention Center: Michele Morgan, Brandon, USM.

Buy For "Nominal" Fee

By Alan Neely
PANAMA CANAL ZONE (BPI) — Land on which church buildings stand will become the property of the government of Panama if the U. S. Senate ratifies the controversial Panama Canal treaties.

Although Baptist leaders interviewed in the Canal Zone anticipate little problem, they still don't know quite what to expect. Most interviewed favor ratification, and expect it to go through; others express misgivings.

Churches in the Zone would have to buy their property from Panama for "a nominal fee," following ratification. Two pastors interviewed, Silvester Scarlett of First Isthmian Baptist Church and Wilfred Morgan of Bethany Baptist Church, expressed uncertainty about what the phrase "nominal fee" means.

U. S. Sen. Howard Baker, R-Tenn., who recently visited Panama on a fact-finding trip, agreed the phrase is ambiguous. He asked Ambler Moss, deputy assistant secretary of state traveling with him, to comment. Moss conceded the meaning lacks clarity but added he does not believe the

churches would have to pay exorbitant prices for the Canal Zone land.

The attorney for the Southern Baptist Mission in Panama, a member of one of the most respected law firms in Panama, explained that "nominal fee" in Panama is "legalese" for "one dollar."

Another Panamanian pastor, Luis Sealey, whose congregation, the Calvary Baptist Church, worships outside the Zone, feels Zone churches should pay a reasonable sum of money for their property. "They should not be expected to be given everything," insisted Sealey, who labels Ronald Reagan's opposition to the treaties as "reckless."

Scarlett raised another question — will the churches have to pay taxes if the treaties are ratified? "The majority of our people are domestic servants," he said. "It would create a real hardship if the government were to change the tax free status of our churches."

The treaties do not deal with the issue of a possible taxation of churches, and Scarlett was the only person who spoke of it. One thing is

clear, however. If the treaties are ratified, the churches (Protestant and Catholic) in the Zone will lose many privileges they now receive from the Panama Canal Company, a U. S. government company which operates the canal and owns housing and operates such things as stores and utilities.

All the Panamanian pastors interviewed spoke with strong feeling in favor of maintaining the tradition of religious freedom that the churches have experienced in Panama.

When asked if he saw any reason to believe that the ratification would threaten religious freedom for Baptists or other Christian groups in the country, Scarlett responded, "No, I would not say that I have any ground for that type of fear — absolutely no ground at all. But we know that anything can happen."

In the event of ratification what do the pastors see as the immediate effects in Panama on Baptist work?

"Not too much as far as I can see," responded Morgan. "We enjoy full freedom of religion here in the Zone and throughout the Republic of Panama, and if that continues, we

should not be affected in any way. Neither do the pastors believe ratification of the treaties would affect the freedom of religion."

Even Southern Baptist missionaries, who have a policy of avoiding political statements in countries in which they serve, favor ratification and anticipate adverse repercussions if it fails.

Meanwhile, the U. S. Senate faces the thorny problem of whether to ratify the treaties, with or without amendments. Some contend that ratification will weaken the U. S. security and commercial interests and lessen its world leadership; others disagree and contend it would be unfair to retain the Canal against wishes of Panamanians.

(This is condensed from articles scheduled for the April, 1978, issue of "World Mission Journal," written by Alan Neely, professor of missions at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. He and Furman Hewitt, associate professor of Christian ethics at the seminary, traveled and interviewed Baptist leaders and missionaries in Panama, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Belize. Neely, a missionary in Colombia for 13 years, has worked on many occasions in the Canal Zone and his oldest daughter, Jennifer, attended Canal Zone Junior College and was a member of Balboa Heights Baptist Church.)

Two In Spring

Ridgecrest Offers Singles Conferences

Two weekend conferences for single adults will be held at Ridgecrest Conference Center this spring.

"Signs of Spring for Singles" is the theme for a March 31 - April 2 conference for all singles. The first conference ever offered at Ridgecrest exclusively for single parents will be held May 19-21.

Program leaders for the single parent conference will be J. Clark Hensley and Charles Smith. Hensley is director of the Mississippi Christian Action Commission, Jackson, and author of *Help for Single Parents*. Smith, a single parent, is a counselor and co-founder of the California Organization of One-Parent Families. He also is author of *Help for the Single Parent Christian Family*.

Martha Hines, a former Miss South

Carolina, will lead the music and sing at the Christian Night Club, a late-night feature at the March meeting.

Limited to 400 single adults and leaders, the conference also will include Bible study, worship and special-interest conferences. Bill Nimmons, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dalton, Ga., will be the Bible teacher.

"We want to magnify the positive side of singleness," said Ann Alexander, single adult consultant in the family ministry department and director of the conference. "We need to stop rehashing negativism."

Registration for either conference costs \$15 and should be mailed to Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, N. C. 28770. Both meetings are sponsored by the family ministry department.

Styles Elected PR President

PHOENIX, Ariz. (BP) — Richard M. Styles, vice president of university relations for Hardin — Simmons University, Abilene, Tex., was elected president of the Baptist Public Relations Association during the organization's annual meeting here.

Styles succeeds James H. Cox, associate editor of the Western Recorder, state newspaper for Kentucky Baptists. Cox will serve as awards chairman for 1978.

Other 1978 officers are program vice president, John Seelig, Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.; membership vice president, Stan Haste, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, D. C.; secretary, Evelyn Strickland, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood, Tenn.; newsletter editor, Mike Duduit, Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; and treasurer, Don Hepburn, Southwestern Seminary.

1978 State Keyboard Festival

The 1978 Mississippi Baptist state Keyboard Festival was held Feb. 24-25 in Hattiesburg at William Carey College.



There were 19 piano participants and five on the organ. High school students from all over the state participated. Lisa Harpole, a Columbus senior, was a co-winner of the judges' trophy for piano, along with Randall Hall of Jackson, Sammy Polk, a Prentiss junior, won the judges' trophy for organ.

Twelfth grade students who completed the proficiency areas required and who received a superior rating on the state level received a \$150 college music scholarship. They were: Lisa Harpole, Mike Smith of New Albany, Diane Freeman of Pascagoula, Joy Odom of Pascagoula, and Melissa Gordon of Merigold.



Judges for the 1978 state Keyboard Festival receive instructions from Dot Pray of the Mississippi Baptist Church Music Department at far left. Left to right they are: Donald Winters, William Carey College; Graham Purkerson, WCC; Marianna Madden, Mississippi College; Forrestine Holt, MC; Dianne Formosa, Blue Mountain College; Nell Adams, CLC; and Robert Formosa, BMC. All judges are on the music staffs of Mississippi Baptist colleges.

Brotherhood

George Plasketes Is RA Congress Attraction

George Plasketes, named to the Collegiate Sports Information Directors' Academic All-American team for 1977, and a defensive end for the University of Mississippi football squad, will be featured as a speaker during the 1978 Royal Ambassador Congress to be held March 24-25 at Mississippi College in Clinton.

He will be joined on the program by Bob Tyler, head football coach for Mississippi State University, Paul Anderson, strongman and Christian lecturer, and Tommy Baddley, pastor of Brandon First Baptist Church.

During the 1977 football season, Plasketes were chosen Associated Press Southeastern Lineman of the Week and United Press International Southeast Defensive Player of the Week following the win over Tennessee, plus he was included on the UPI defensive player of the week list again after Ole Miss played Auburn.

Selected to play in the Blue-Gray All Star game and the Hula Bowl All Star game, Plasketes is a candidate for a Rhodes Scholarship and president of his school's Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

The RA Congress is for boys in grades 1-12 and costs \$10 per person. Write or call the Mississippi Baptist Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, phone 354-3704, for more information. Registration deadline is Mar. 17.



Plasketes

Tokyo, Japan — Tokyo Baptist Church celebrated its 20th anniversary recently with a week of special activities, highlighted by a banquet. Anita Coleman, Southern Baptist missionary from Tennessee who is professor of English and Bible at Seinan Gakuin University in Fukuoka, was the main speaker. Tokyo church was organized Jan. 5, 1958, by a group of Christian military families and interested missionaries.

New York (RNS) — Robert L. Johnston has been appointed editor of The Catholic Review, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Johnston, 46, has been editor of Catholic news for Religious News Service here since 1969. He succeeds Patrick V. Joyce, who left to become editor of the Catholic Explorer in Ellet, Ill.

zation and literature to accomplish it.

With a resident church membership of 219 for the past year, this church has experienced almost a 25% increase in church membership during the current church year with over 41 additions. A year ago the average Sunday School enrollment was 63 and Church Training, 27.

In October the church experienced a complete reorganization of its Church Training program. One feature of this was moving the youth choir from the Church Training hour to provide a meaningful learning experience both for those who sing and those who do not. A Church Training Clinic was conducted in the church early in October, led by associational officers.

Carmel Reports An Unusual Church Training Attendance

Average Sunday School attendance, November, 1977: 94.

Average Church Training attendance, November 1977: 101.

Church Training is alive and doing well at Carmel Baptist Church, Lawrence Association, according to Pastor Robert Dunn and Church Training Director Belford Speight.

On four occasions since the beginning of October, Church Training attendance has exceeded that of Sunday School. This is without special emphasis or attendance campaigns. The secret is pastor and director who firmly believe in the values of doctrinal instruction, helping people to know how to apply Bible truths for daily living, and using recommended organi-

Man And Boy Rallies Feature Missionaries

A statewide series of Man and Boy Rallies will take place in Mississippi in April.

Sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Brotherhood Department, the rallies are programmed for Christian fellowship, missions emphasis and challenge, inspiration, food, and recreation.

Each of the eight programs listed below begins with supper at 7 p.m. Dates and places for the rallies are: Apr. 6, Temple Baptist Church, Hattiesburg; Apr. 7, FBC, Biloxi; Apr. 13, Highland Baptist Church, Meridian; and Apr. 14, FBC, Crystal Springs.

Apr. 20, FBC, Sardis; Apr. 21, East Heights Baptist Church, Tupelo; Apr. 27, North Greenwood Baptist Church, Greenwood; and Apr. 28, FBC, Louisville.

Speakers will each be on hand for two rallies. For rallies scheduled Apr. 6 and 7, Major C. McDaniel, Jr., foreign missionary to Seoul, Korea, working in music promotion, will be inspirational speaker. And Ricky Kennedy, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Hazlehurst will be in charge of music, and recreation.

At the April 13 and 14 rallies, Robert A. Holifield, missionary to Rome, Italy, working in evangelism and church development, will be inspirational speaker. Ricky Kennedy will again lead the music.

SBC Contributions Continue To Rise

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Five months through the 1977-78 fiscal year national Southern Baptist receipts have yielded \$23,529,146 in Cooperative Program unified budget contributions and \$47,682,025 in total contributions.

The Cooperative Program figure, consisting of undesignated contributions for world missions needs of Southern Baptist Convention agencies, is running \$1,787,893, or 8.22 percent ahead of the same point last year. The total contributions, including the Cooperative Program amount and another \$24,152,879 in designated gifts, is \$4,037,545, or 9.25 percent ahead of last year.

During February, the fifth month in the fiscal year, Southern Baptists contributed \$4,750,338 in national Cooperative Program funds — 5.92 percent ahead of last year — and \$20,254,520 in total contributions — 10.42 percent ahead of last year.

Southern Baptist Convention agencies are working on a \$55,080,000 operating and capital needs budget for 1977-78 and an additional challenge budget of \$8,320,000 for unmet missions needs. The SBC has also voted to set a goal to double total Cooperative Program contributions in the states and nationally by 1982 and then double twice more by the end of the century to fulfill the SBC's Bold Mission Thrust goal to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to every person in the world by the year 2000.

The national Cooperative Program portion amounts to about one-third of what state Baptist conventions receive from more than 35,000 Southern Baptist churches. The churches send eight to 10 percent of their contributions through state conventions for Cooperative Program causes.

Bill Earmarks Tax Money For All Private Schools

(Continued from page 1)
run into constitutional problems on the grounds of separation of church and state, the committee amendment also provided for expedited court review of the constitutionality of the education tax credit.

Known as the Roth - Moynihan - Packwood Bill for Tuition Tax Credit, the proposal is advanced on the grounds that it will give income tax relief of middle - income taxpayers and will provide substantial aid to parochial and other private nonpublic schools.

The Bill . . . "coerces the taxpayer into religious participation," says the Baptist Joint Committee.

The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs has opposed tax aid to the religious education programs of the churches on the ground that it violates separation of church and state and coerces the taxpayer into religious participation. The committee has testified at congressional hearings this year and in previous years against income tax credits for tuition as a form of government payment for religious education.

Wood points out that "the amount allowed for a tax credit would actually become a reimbursement from the federal government for one-half the tuition" up to \$500, which would be spent by the taxpayer for each member of the family in private schools.

Although the Carter administration is pledged to constitutional aids to private and parochial schools, it adamantly opposes the current Roth - Moynihan - Packwood tax credit plan.

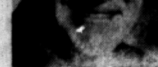
The new tax credit formula would provide parochial school students with \$500, plus \$55 to \$75 per student now received under existing federal programs, plus the tax deduction of contributions to churches for use in parochial schools, Califano said. "This compares with only \$128 per pupil for public school students," he continued.

The Washington Post, in a lead editorial, opposed the tuition tax credit plan as one that "threatens to do incalculable damage to this country's public schools."

Andrew Leigh Gunn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, denounced the Roth - Moynihan - Packwood tax credit plan as a violation of the First Amendment and as destructive of religious freedom. He especially called on black churches to join in the fight against tax credit legislation, because "black children would be the real losers" in the explosion of private schools.

BWA Staffer To Speak In Jackson

Ronald Goulding, born in Earlsfield, a suburb of London, England, will be the guest of Ridgecrest Baptist Church Sunday evening, March 12. He will be speaking at the 6 p.m. church training hour and also at the 7 p.m. evening worship hour.



Goulding began his work as Director of the new B.W.A. Division of Evangelism and Education in Washington, D. C., in October, 1976. Prior to this position, he served as Associate Secretary of the Baptist World Alliance and Secretary of the European Baptist Federation, with offices in London.

From 1950-1958 Goulding served as minister of Fuller Church at Kettering, the congregation associated with the founding of the Baptist Missionary Society which first supported William Carey's work in India.

The Missions Task

Hastening His Coming

By John Alexander, Director, Stewardship Department

In II Peter 3:8-11, we are reminded that the day of the Lord will come. Peter tells us that man's efforts to dissect eternity into measurable parts does not in any way affect God. He also tells us that God is not careless in keeping his promises, but that he suffers long toward us, not wanting any to perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Christ will come but his coming is being delayed because of his long-suffering attitude toward unrepentant men. If one is really interested in the return of the Lord, it seems to me that one definite way to hasten that glorious event is to become more meaningfully involved in the BOLD MISSION THRUST. Hear God saying through Ezekiel the prophet, "As I live, saith the Lord Jehovah, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?" (Ezek. 33:11)

If we hasten the return of Christ, we must obediently hear again Isaiah's call (60:1-3), "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of Jehovah is risen upon thee. For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the peoples; but Jehovah will arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And nations shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."

For one to verbalize on the second coming of Christ and virtually do nothing for world missions is to deny the validity of one's verbalization.

Anxious apostles posed a pressing question when they asked Jesus after the resurrection, "Lord, dost thou at this time restore the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know times or seasons, which the Father hath set within his own authority. But ye shall receive power — ye shall be my witnesses — unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:7-8).

In Jesus' story of the great supper, "The Lord said unto the servant, go out into the highways and hedges, and constrain them to come in, that my house may be filled" (Luke 14:23).

In this day of extreme covetousness and self-centeredness, even church men tend to forget God. Materialism becomes their religion and gold their God.

Men tend to forget what is really important in life. Men and women are wasting their lives away in unworthy pursuits.

Again, the door to world evangelization has been opened wide through BOLD MISSION THRUST.

Can we say with John the Revelator, "Come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20)?

Newsbriefs In The



World Of Religion

Macon, Ga. (BP) — Faced with an escalating delinquency rate in the repayment of student loans, Mercer University has decided, for the first time in its history, to go to court to collect. "Already eight suits have been filed in Bibb County to collect delinquent student loans," said W. Newton Moore, assistant attorney for the Baptist university, "and future loan appropriations through the federal government depend on our success in loan collections. This is a revolving fund, and serious debts have been accumulated." Arthur Christie, director of student financial aid, pointed out that the university took the action only after extensive attempts to collect the loans through regular collection procedures.

London (RNS) — A further split in the Church of England over the question of the ordination of women priests was revealed when Dominic Pyle-Bridges, chairman of the League of Anglican Loyalists, said at its annual meeting here the League would "fight to the last ditch against the ordination of women."

MC Law Dean

(Continued from page 1)

Mississippi College board of trustees for consideration and action at the next scheduled meeting, Nobles said. Turnage, a Baptist, hails from Monticello, and has been a deacon in the church there. Mrs. Payne is a member of the McLaurin Heights Baptist Church in Pearl.

DRESS A CHILD AT EASTER — 1978 —



THE BEST WAY — A cash gift that enables us to dress several children at Easter. Help us dress EVERY CHILD at the Village in church clothing, not only for spring and summer, but also to help underwrite our costly clothing and shoe budget for the entire year.

A SECOND WAY — Contact us and request OUR STAFF to take a child shopping FOR YOU. The child's tastes will be considered and a proper fit is ensured. Approximate costs to dress a child are: \$55 for 10 years or less, \$65 for 10-14 years; \$75 for a high schooler; and \$85 for a college youth.

A THIRD WAY — Write or telephone us and request sizes on a child in the age group of your choice. You may shop or sew as you choose and mail or deliver the clothing.

OUR CHILDREN on the JACKSON CAMPUS, on the FARROW MANOR CAMPUS, and at the NEW ALBANY SATELLITE HOME LOOK TO CHRISTIANS FOR HELP.

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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Mississippi Baptist Bible Conference . . .

Attractive Bible Study Time

A Bible study effort which may be unique to Mississippi will be in its third year later this month when it is held at First Baptist Church, Jackson. It has proved to be a very popular feature for Mississippi Baptists, and this year each person who attends will be offered five hours and 40 minutes of Bible study under very able teachers.

The Mississippi Baptist Bible Conference will begin March 20 at 6:45

p.m. and will conclude the next evening at 9:30. So it means only a short time away from home and office, but it can be highly profitable.

The books will be I Peter, Matthew, Ephesians, Romans, Nehemiah, Acts, Hebrews, and Galatians. The teachers will be Ray Frank Robbins of New Orleans Seminary, Harold S. Songer of Southern Seminary, Curtis Vaughan of Southwestern Seminary, Dale Moody

of Southern, Stuart Arnold of the Sunday School Board, Scott Tatum of Southwestern, Ralph Murray of the Sunday School Board, and Boyd Hunt of Southwestern. Seldom is such an array of ability gathered in one place at one time.

In addition there will be general sessions with messages by Wayne Dehoney, pastor of Walnut Street Church in Louisville, Ky., and Ken Chafin,

pastor of South Main Church in Houston.

It is an attractive opportunity. And after a long winter of fearing treacherous roads, it should be a relief to travel to Jackson without worrying about conditions.

This has proved to be a popular event in Mississippi Baptist life, but there is still room for growth, both in number who attend and in the comprehension of those who attend.

Tax Credit For Private Schools . . .

Chipping Away At Separation

A special interest group that can be counted on to keep chipping away at established positions is that group seeking tax money for religious education.

Attention is called to items in last week's Baptist Record and in this week's. The battle over the separation of church and state, which is at the core of religious liberty, is going on in the House and Senate of the United States Congress. In the Senate the measure is called the Packwood-Moynihan Bill (S. 2142). The identical bill in the House is the Burkes-Frenzel Bill (H. R. 9332). These bills would

allow taxpayers who are sending their children to parochial or any other private schools to have a tax credit of half of the tuition paid up to a maximum of \$500 per student. This includes elementary, secondary, and higher education.

The family wouldn't pay that amount of its taxes. It would amount to all of us paying half the tuition for every child in the nation who is in a private school at any level if the family accepts the tax break; and if it is legal, why not?

Now maybe this is what we want to do. It would siphon off of the two untold billions of dollars in taxes paid by

people of all faiths and no faith to send children to schools of whatever faith they choose, and it could have the effect of seriously damaging the public school system. Many will say that the public school system is hurting already; but is this the way to remedy its ills, if it is hurting?

The National Education Association has said that the proposals are "unsound administratively, unsound fiscally, unsound as a matter of public policy, and unsound constitutionally."

Feelings in Mississippi regarding these bills are going to be mixed. Many Mississippians are sending their children to private schools and would be glad to see the tax break. Others are

sending their children to private schools but would feel even so that such a tax condition is erroneous. Others send their children to public schools and rue any condition that would have the possibility of causing damage to the system. Even others might switch their children from public to private school if the proposals were adopted.

Whatever the philosophy, this is a vital time for the United States in its tax structure, its public school system, and its concept of religious liberty.

Your United States senators and your representative would be glad to hear from you on this.

Sex On TV . . .

Achilles Heel Is Advertising

A recent (Feb. 20) issue of Newsweek presented a seven-page treatment of sex on television. The weekly newsmagazine did a thorough job of exploring what networks and which programs are getting out the biggest portions of sex, of giving attention to who is paying for it, and of recognizing the organizations that are the most effective in protesting it.

Newsweek pointed out that polls have indicated that 54 percent of the television-watching public feels there is too much sex in this living room entertainment medium. It also pointed out that this is irksome to many network executives. Their attitude seems to be that they wish the public would let them alone so that they could turn out any kind of trash they desire without worrying about what anybody thinks. The pressure to clean up the TV mess is still on them, however, and two

groups which are keeping it applied are well-known to many Mississippians. Religious groups are in the front line of the assault, Newsweek said, and listed the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and The National Federation for Decency, a 5,000-member group that was organized by Mississippi United Methodist minister Donald Wildmon.

Whether or not the protests are having any effect is difficult to determine. An all-out protest against one program can get that show off the air or changed, but two others may crop up in its place. Newsweek reported that "Soap," which was the target of intense protests, is in the process of being changed from a sex-oriented show to a "whodunit." The reason, it was reported, was 22,000 letters of protest about the show before it even started. Newsweek reported that ad-

vertisers became fearful and backed away.

So we may have cleaned up "Soap" to some extent, but along comes "Three's Company" and "Love Boat." And NBC, being third in the ranking of three networks competing for viewers, has hired Fred Silverman, the man who made ABC No. 1 with the sex-oriented shows, to be its president so he can do the same thing there.

Two factors seem obvious. The first is that while there may be a sizeable portion of the population thinking that there is too much sex on TV, a great host of that same portion is going to watch it anyway. The second is that the writers and producers know this and intend to keep on turning out the sex material.

A developing aspect is that much of the material is created for the one-time show or mini-series that is over

before protests can be mounted.

So we have an expensive medium of entertainment sitting in our homes that is spewing objectionable stuff at us, and its programmers are telling us that they intend to continue the same line regardless of how we feel about it.

So what do we do about it? Newsweek indicates that the Achilles' heel of television is the advertiser. If he can be made to believe he will lose customers by sponsoring junk, then he probably will not sponsor it.

But it takes a concerted effort, and it takes a lot of protests to make him take notice.

It would like a long, hard fight; but if we could get television cleaned up so that we could watch it in comfort with our families, it would be worth it.

Whether or not we watch it in its present form, there are millions who are watching it. And whatever it is, it is a powerful medium of influence.

The Good and the Bad

Dear Editor:

The Good

I had the pleasure to be able to attend every session of the recent Evangelism Conference held in Gulfport on Feb. 6, 7, and 8. The speakers were all outstanding and my thanks to Roy Collum and others for their efforts in this area. Dan Hall likewise gets a big pat on the back for his efforts with the music portion of the conference. It was the best I have heard. For everyone who had a part, I say thank you for the spiritual uplift in my life.

The Bad

It should have been a great time for all pastors who were in attendance. It was a chance for them to relax and be on the receiving end of preaching in-

stead of having to preach. It was a time of meeting with fellow pastors and friends that they may not see the rest of the year. Each program personality had a great message and in most cases saying, "Fellow pastors, it's up to you to lead your flock in a great and bold effort to win the lost to the Lord." Many in attendance gave me the impression that it was a holiday on the coast. Many came in very late, many left early and while a speaker was speaking or even while someone was praying. Would these men appreciate this sort of thing from their own congregations? I think not.

On Tuesday afternoon and just prior to the time Dr. Porter was to speak, I had to leave in order to take medication for a splitting headache. When I went to get water, there was at least 100 or more men, drinking coffee and browsing around the bookstore. Were they interested in what Dr. Porter had to say? It hurt me to think that these pastors, whose expenses were paid, for the most part, by their home church so they could attend the conference, weren't interested enough to be in attendance.

On Tuesday night after Mr. Clower spoke and the Rev. Lewis Sewell was leading in prayer, at least one-third of the congregation got up and left. I feel sure that all who were so very inconsiderate were not all laymen. Would pastors accept this in their churches? I think not.

On Wednesday morning, well after Dr. Rees was leading in Bible study, pastors were still coming in to the auditorium. He even stopped and asked that those in attendance sit closer to the center. Are pastors afraid of one another? They expect congregations to sit down front and move to the middle of the pews so late comers may slip in more easily.

Robert Brownlee
Gulfport, MS

Propaganda?

Dear Editor:

One of the chief ploys used by skilled propagandists is to present a series of true, or seemingly true statements, arranged in such a way as to leave in the mind of the reader or hearer an absolute false impression.

The squib about military retirement under the heading "Budget Fact," which appeared on the editorial page of the Feb. 9 issue is such a piece of propaganda. After presenting some apparently true statistical facts the squib concludes with the statement, "In the armed forces, our men and women in uniform contribute nothing to their pensions."

As this squib appears under the major heading, "On The Moral Scene," it seems that the editor of the Baptist Record is saying to the readers that military retirees are immoral because they are receiving money from the federal government under false pretense.

The military retirees who devoted the major part of their productivelives in defending this nation against its enemies, did not choose a military career because of their love of money.

The military retiree, during his years of active duty, believed within his heart that he was carrying out his mission in life by fighting and being willing to die, if necessary, in helping to maintain a nation in which all the people would be free to enjoy their God given rights, and in which all its people would be free to worship God as they see fit.

The military retiree did not set a monetary price upon the hardships and suffering that fell upon him and his loved ones during his tenure on active duty. His only thought was that he must do what he must to help keep America free.

The guns are now silent and the old soldiers have been retired, but those

who would destroy our God-given rights are still hard at work. Under the doctrine of divide and conquer, they are attempting to destroy the ability and will of the American people to resist.

Through various means and by subtle use of propaganda they are attempting to divide the total population into various groups, and then to put one group against another; race against race, male against female, military against civilian, young against old, labor against capitalist, etc.

It seems to me that the editor and publisher of The Baptist Record could better promote the Kingdom of God by exposing and repudiating those individuals and agencies who are engaged in those unholy activities designed to destroy the American way of life.

Carl E. Tolar
Jackson

"Grateful Thanks"

Dear Sir:

The deacon body of Colonial Heights Baptist Church wishes to offer its grateful thanks to you for the article on our church published in The Baptist Record on February 2, 1978. We are proud of the reputation our church is developing for being the friendliest church in town, and are humbled and thankful to God for the tremendous work of the Spirit within our church, which manifests itself in the friendly and cooperative attitudes of our membership.

Likewise we offer praises to our God for the dedication of our pastor, Brother Len Turner, and the others of our staff who contribute immeasurably to our witness in Northeast Jackson.

Again, thanks to you and the entire staff of The Baptist Record, not only



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

It's a small world when you can leave Mississippi with a piece of frozen steak, take it all the way to Germany, and still have to wait for it to thaw before you can cook it.

W. R. Roberts, Mississippi's Annuity Board representative, had a visit recently from his daughter, Kathleen and 3½ year-old granddaughter, Anne Barbara (they call her Poopee, meaning "little one.")

Kathleen, an opera singer who was employed for eight years with the Darmstadt Opera House in Germany is married to Klaus Striegler, chemical engineer, and lives in Griesheim, Darmstadt.

When their daughter was ready to go back home W. R. and Nell wrapped a long strip of filet mignon and packed it in Kathleen's suitcase. Steak like this is hard, or impossible, to find in Germany, she had told them.

One morning at five she left, and within 24 hours was home. The meat had not wholly thawed, but had thawed enough that she needed to cook it for dinner that day. Her husband has already written to the Roberts to express his appreciation for that American beef.

This week, March 5-12, is the Week of Prayer for Home Missions. Last Sunday at Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, the interim pastor, Robert Wall, said that home missions begins with the neighbor next door, or across the

street. I have a letter from Frank Moran of Morehead City, N.C., that carries the same idea.

Moran says, "In July 1968 I attended the Pan-American Congress of Baptist Men in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It was during this conference that I learned of a Brazilian pastor who was laboring 16 hours a day in a new struggling church in downtown Rio, where there was worship every day at noon. I attended a noon service there and met the pastor, David Gomes, and his wife, Haydee. When Mrs. Gomes saw a group of North Americans enter the church, she joined her husband in the pulpit and interpreted the service into English.

"Being much impressed with this work of our Lord, a few of us remained after the service and talked with this man of God who manifested such a strong faith. During our conversation, someone asked Pastor Gomes how we could help most. I expected him to ask for our prayers and financial aid for the ministry in Brazil. And I hoped that would be his reply, for then I could say in my heart, 'These things I have done since my youth.' However, his answer shocked me, for God spoke to me through David Gomes that day as he said: 'Brethren, give yourselves completely to the Lord and be as missionary in North Carolina as you would desire me to be missionary in Brazil.'

Substitute Mississippi for North Carolina. Then what does that say to you?

Book Reviews

THIS CALL WE SHARE, by Martha Nelson (Broadman Press, 1977, \$4.95).

Martha Nelson has written another practical and positive book. Wives of men in church career vocations will relate to her experiences as well as those recounted from numerous sources. Couples will profit by discussing these familiar pressures and joys. Drawing values from interviews with qualified leaders from several disciplines, she makes helpful suggestions for coping with stress and fulfillment for the woman sharing her life with a church-related professional.

Mrs. Nelson gives a refreshing emphasis upon love in the home and a plea for the wife to make her own unique contribution instead of trying to fulfill role expectations. She recommends that the couple frequently "retreat for renewal."

In her conclusion "Be Confident, My Heart," Mrs. Nelson states, "Granted, no two marriages are alike, nor are any two congregations or working relationships. Solutions must ultimately be found within the creativity of the two of you, in your determination and your dependence upon God, who has tapped you for service."

I commend this book to those in

church career work who really want to improve both their family and work relationships. It is a good book for a staff person to give his wife for her birthday — or for "no reason at all."

(Mrs. Carl Nelson is a native Mississippian. Her husband, Carl, is now pastor at Pelahatchie. Former pastors include those in Texas, Colorado and Missouri. She has written six books, among them *The Christian Woman in the Working World*, *A Woman's Search for Serenity* and *On Being a Deacon's Wife*.)

—J. Clark Hensley

COME PRAY WITH ME, by Carolyn Rhea Zondervan, 128 pp., \$2.95) The author, Mrs. Claude Rhea, asks, "Why don't today's Christians pray together more?" There are eight sessions designed to guide you, step by step, into praying with other Christians. The final part of the book is a leader's guide for a person who instructs in the study of prayer.

LET'S TALK by Fred Roach (Fleming H. Revell, 192 pp., \$6.95) With ideas to trigger family conversation at mealtime, bedtime, travel time, devotion time, recreation time, anytime, this book could change your family lifestyle! The author has gathered, and arranged in alphabetical order by subject a whole bookful of ideas for conversation starters. He successfully used these to spark talks with his son, Bobby. Topics such as aspirations, faith, maturing, and relationships are skillfully handled by Roach, a leading Texas businessman, family man, and Christian.

ZEST FOR LIVING by Gaines S. Dobbins (Word Books, \$5.95, 123 pp.) Here are the ingredients that go to make up a lifetime of zestful service, presented by a man who knows what he is talking about. Dobbins has been a newspaperman, editor, pastor, professor, author, and pioneer in the fields of religious education and church administration. Past 90 and in his third retirement he continues writing and teaching with zest. This book shares what he has learned about keeping that zest for life. Dobbins defines and examines zest and with this analysis interweaves the story of his life — boyhood in Mississippi, dean of Southern Seminary's School of Religious Education, retirement and teaching on the West Coast and traveling around the world. It is a history of the United States, the South, and Southern Baptists since 1900, as well as the story of Gaines Dobbins.

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Jackson, Miss 39201

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The Mississippi Baptist Convention

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Subscription rates for 1978: \$5.00 per year in advance. Single copies 10¢. Second class postage paid at Jackson, Miss.

The Baptist Record is a member of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Baptist World Alliance.

Recently when James and I were at Houston while my parents were mending from illness, I heard some birds communicating loudly. Quite excited, I said, "James, I hear the wild geese going over!"

"Honey, those are not geese."
"What are they? Sure, they're wild geese going south. On second thought, maybe they are going back north since it is so cold down here in the south this winter."

"Honey, they are not geese. They are crows."

"Crows? No, crows are not romantic. Wild geese flying through the sky are more romantic. Let's let them be geese."

"Sorry. They're only crows."

Two or three other times I heard noises I thought came from wild geese overhead. Every time James wiped out the romanticism by identifying the sounds as coming from such unlikely creatures as old black crows.

It came to my mind, finally, that most of us need to temper our sense of adventure, romanticism, anticipation, and excitement with a sense of reality. It's good to hear the wild geese overhead — the dreams we have, our serious goals we've made, a few stars to reach for, the way we want life to be.

But the old black crows of where we are in relation to our goals, how far our arms must be lengthened to grasp the stars, and how high the mountain of hard work which must be leveled is — the old black crows of actuality can't be ignored. Nor can they be miraculously changed into the fleeting, romantic wild geese, no matter how we wish they could.

They are valuable birds, those old black crows.



Share-ling With Multi-Ethnic America—

—More than half of our 2,839 home missionaries work with the ethnic groups in our nation. Thirty-three ethnic groups are being ministered to by Southern Baptists. Even more lifestyle and cultural groups are targeted for Bold Mission Thrust. Of the \$13,000,000 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal, \$3,000,000 is allocated to language missions. Special projects for ethnics total more than \$300,000 of the offering.

Clockwise from bottom left in the montage are: Glenn Harada, Hawaii; Golden Gate Seminary; Norman Jones, a HMB volunteer; Indian child; a National Baptist woman; Henry Mu, Chinese pastor; and elderly Mary Anders, Washington, DC. (HMB Photo)

Baptist Hour

Can You Be A Happy Sinner?

Is it possible to be a happy sinner? On "The Baptist Hour," Dr. Frank Pollard says it is, but only after "admitting spiritual poverty and allowing God his rightful position in life."

"The only people who cannot be forgiven of sin are those who will not admit their sinfulness," Pollard said. "Pride keeps people from many good things, but most tragic of all, it keeps them from God."

Pollard stresses Jesus' emphasis in "The Lord's Prayer," that the happy people of this world are "those wise enough to admit their spiritual poverty — for they are the ones who let God rule their lives, so he can bless and fill with abundance those lives given to him."

The March series of "Baptist Hour" sermons includes "A Lesson In Greatness," "Which Gate Out Of The Garden?" and "It Began To Dawn."

In "Which Gate Out Of The Garden?" Pollard compares some Christians today to the disciples who chose the gate of sleeping. "Many a professing Christian, challenged to sacrificial service, meets that challenge with a yawn, sleepily refusing to do anything for Christ that isn't comfortable or convenient," he said.

"The church is hurt today by good people who have lost their challenge and have, in the middle of battle, gone to sleep."

"The Baptist Hour" sermons for 1978 were recorded in the Bible lands where Jesus ministered.

Student Says Tithe Is Not Enough

By Donnie Payne

A few years ago my home church of Locust Hill was broken into and several items were stolen. I remember it so well because I thought it a horrible shame for a person to rob the very house of God. I didn't consider how that all things work together for the good of them that love God. As time went on, I came to realize that it wasn't the thief in the night that was the most guilty; but it was I who had robbed God of his most precious resources.

While searching for a sermon one day, God revealed my guilt to me in the verses of Malachi 3:8-9. "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse; for ye have robbed me, . . . These verses tell me that giving the tithe is not enough. Christians ought to give the tithe and we ought to give above the tithe. God said that we have robbed him of tithes AND offerings. An offering is simply anything above a tenth of your income. If this extra money didn't belong to God, why would he say that we are cursed when we refuse to give it?

A few months ago we were asked to pledge an offering to student missions. God began to burden me to make a pledge. At first I refused. I couldn't believe God wanted me to give. Besides being married and not having a full-time job, I was going to school. Each reason seemed so sound until I

read the tenth verse of the third chapter of Malachi. God said to bring all the tithe into the storehouse. Then he said, "Prove me now, . . . if I will not open the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." When I pledged \$200 to student missions, I didn't have the money. I simply claimed the promise of God, and God is providing. What a joy it is to know that because I give, others are able to go. Not only do others go, I go with them.

When a student nurse bathes a sick child in Bangladesh, because I give, I hold the wash cloth. When a student shares his love for Christ in the inner city of San Francisco, he is sharing my love for Christ also. For you see, without my giving and your giving, there will be no one to go.

Isn't it time that we stand on God's promise and stop using excuses for not supporting the work of God? I promise: YOU CAN'T OUT GIVE GOD.

(NOTE: The writer is a freshman at Northeast Miss. Junior College. He is the son of Marion Payne, pastor of Locust Hill Church, Pontotoc County.)

In what bold relief stand out the lives of all walkers of the snow! The snow is a great tell-tale, and blabs as effectually as it obliterates. I go into the woods, and know all that has happened. I cross the fields, and if only a mouse has visited his neighbor, the fact is chronicled. — John Burroughs

FMB Turns Sugar Plantation Into Barbados Baptist College

By John J. Hurt

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has turned a 20-acre sugar plantation near this Caribbean city into the Barbados Baptist Theological College, serving the Caribbean.

There is more to the transformation than changing a farm to a seminary.

A concrete block building which once was a garage and pig pen is now a chapel; the tractor shed will be a boys' dormitory; the dairy shed will be the girls' dormitory; a two-car garage will become a medical clinic; the fertilizer shed will be the dining hall and the plantation staff quarters will some day be the kitchen.

Only the plantation home, catalogued for administration and academic facilities, still resembles original construction. Second-floor bedrooms are used temporarily for work crews like those who came from North Carolina and Kansas, and other guests.

Charles W. Bryan, Foreign Mission Board secretary for Middle America and the Caribbean, helped dedicate the college recently with William L. Womack, the school's missionary president, who recently completed studies for a doctor of ministries degree from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

Horace O. Russell, Jamaican pastor and Caribbean Baptist leader, in the dedicatory address pointed out that the college was established "because of the growing understanding between Caribbean Baptists and a new understanding of North American Baptists in an endeavor to contribute to the spectrum of Christian witness, truths, values and gifts which God has given to Baptists as a trust for the whole Christian church."

Russell noted the three students enrolled here and reminded his audience that the theological college he attended in Jamaica started more than a century ago with just five students and a tutor.

Southern Baptists launched this institution with an investment of \$100,000 and about \$9,000 spent in the renovation, now about a fourth complete.

Womack, a watchmaker and tax collector in Fredericktown, Mo., before entering the ministry, has a dream of enrolling seven students by the end of the year, 20 to 24 in two years, and adding another missionary to help him teach.

The college is working toward a standardized theological study program for each of the islands, somewhat like seminary extension centers in the Southern Baptist Convention, with graduation here after some classroom work.

(Hurt, retired editor of Texas Baptist Standard, recently returned from a tour of Southern Baptist work in Middle America and the Caribbean.)

Grenadans Help Build Church On Barbados

A lay mission work crew is back home in Grenada after helping to construct a church in Barbados, in the West Indies.

Hiram Davis, Jr., R. C. Haley, Lyle and Nell Rose Corey, members of First Church, Grenada, and Charles Sharp of First Church, Water Valley, went to Barbados on Jan. 24 and stayed two weeks.

The men went to Bridgetown to work on the Emmanuel Baptist Church. They built the baptistry and helped raise the rafters and start the roof. The crew stayed in the main building at the new Barbados Baptist Theological College (see accompanying story by John Hurt, about the college.)

Mrs. Corey did office work and prepared teacher training aids at the school.

Lay mission work crews are a common sight on the island of Barbados. In the fall of 1976, the Windward Island Mission felt the need for building a church in Bridgetown, for adding to Bethany Church on the west coast, and for turning an old sugar plantation into a theological college.

The Mission sent a request to the Foreign Mission Board for lay mission work crews to come for two-week work periods.

In 1977 men and women went from Mississippi, North and South Carolina, Alabama, Virginia, Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas to help with these construction projects.

Jerry Harris, one of the Southern Baptist missionaries on Barbados, and his family opened their home to the men and women who came to work.

Harris said in one of his newsletters: "The people of Barbados have seen the money of Southern Baptists, the missionaries of Southern Baptists, but now they have seen the heartbeat of what makes the Southern Baptist mission program . . . the people themselves."

Some men from First Baptist Church, Grenada were part of the first work crew in 1977.

The 1978 group attended the annual Barbados Baptist Convention and the dedication service of the Barbados Baptist Theological College on Sunday, Jan. 29.

The progress of the building program has been rapid because of the work crews and money from the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. The Bethany addition is complete except for painting; Emmanuel in Bridgetown will soon be ready for use. Much work at the college has been accomplished: the main building which was formerly the plantation house is now in use, one of the outbuildings is now a chapel and the old tractor shed is becoming a boys' dorm.

Persons interested in participating in such volunteer mission projects at home or abroad should contact the Volunteers-in-Missions Committee, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.



Beverly Lawrence is William Carey's Homecoming Queen for 1978. Her court include from left, seated: Helen Lee, maid of honor; the queen; Brenda Wood, baseball maid; and standing: Kim Boggs, sophomore maid; Robbin Raulerson, senior maid; Cindy Campbell, freshman maid; and Brenda Davie, junior maid. (Not in the photo are Carole Drifa, New Orleans nursing maid, and Cathy Roberts, Gulf Coast campus maid.)

Carey Homecoming Is Saturday, April 1

Annual Homecoming activities will take place at William Carey College on April 1, according to an announcement by the office of alumni affairs. In addition, there will be special Homecoming-even festivities involving all alumni who are working in church-related vocations.

The Saturday schedule will begin with registration at 10 a.m. Former students of Mississippi Woman's College will register in Thomas Business Building, with all other alumni registering in Thomas Fine Arts Building. (On opposite sides of the campus, the two buildings are often confused.)

An 11 a.m. combined variety show will be held in Thomas Auditorium with special emphasis on the return of the Class of 1928 for the 50th anniversary. Sidney Buckley, outstanding alumnus of the college in 1968 and a concert musician from South Carolina, will also be featured. Returning members of the "Woman's College football team of the mid-fifties" will be on stage as well as members of the Carey Alumni Association Executive Council.

At 12:30 the annual Homecoming Luncheon will include all campus visitors. The presentation of the Homecoming Court will take place at 2:30 between the double header baseball games of William Carey and Southern Benedictine. Beverly Lawrence will reign as 1978 Homecoming Queen and will be escorted by Philip Fortenberry.

At 3 p.m. Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Noonkester will entertain at an after-dinner coffee hour for members of the Class of 1928 and for the winner of the Outstanding Alumnus of the Year Award.

Special Homecoming-even festivities on Friday night, March 31, at 6 p.m. will be held featuring all alumni who are currently involved in church-related vocations.

Homecoming invitations have been issued to some 3000 alumni whose known addresses are in the alumni office. Each is asked to respond by mail or by phone. Those not in the file are urged to attend and to phone the alumni office informing them of their current addresses.

Laborers Sought To Rebuild Washington, Ga., Churches

WASHINGTON, Ga. (BP) — Georgia Baptist Brotherhood leaders are seeking about 100 laborers to go to Washington, Ga., for a three-day period March 16-18 to help rebuild the sanctuary of a black Baptist congregation destroyed by a fire recently.

Money and preliminary labor have already been contributed by Georgia Baptists to help Mulberry Baptist Church and Mt. Zion Baptist church rebuild their sanctuary.

Mulberry and Mt. Zion churches were among four Baptist and

Methodist churches burned by vandals recently. Several suspects were apprehended and charged with arson.

Concrete workers and brick masons are scheduled to pour foundations March 11. Carpenters, brick masons, plumbers, electricians and others will then be needed for a "blitz" three-day construction project March 16-18.

Volunteers are urged to contact H. Eugene Dailey, 2930 Flowers Road, S.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30341, or phone 404-455-0404.



Grenadans with the missionary at Barbados, left to right: R. C. Haley, Hiram Davis, Jr., Jerry Harris, missionary, Lyle Corey, and Charles Sharp. Nell Rose Corey, another of the team, was taking the picture.

Volunteer Missions

Short-Term Needs In Ohio

Ohio is one of four states where Mississippi Baptists are focusing on needs for short-term volunteer mission projects. The others are Michigan, California, and West Virginia. Below is a list of Ohio short-term projects where volunteers are needed.

First Church, Jackson, and Hinds Association are sponsoring a workshop April 18 and 19 that will present information about the needs for volunteer mission projects. This will be at First Church.

In May a Home Mission Board conference will help to orient all home missions volunteers. Details on this will be announced later.

If you or your church want to serve in a volunteer mission project and

would like to know where you are needed, you should contact the Volunteers - in - Missions Committee, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. Or contact the Home or Foreign Mission Board.

(Please notify the Volunteers - in - Missions Committee if you contact the Home or Foreign Mission Board, so too many will not be encouraged to go to the same places, and to eliminate duplication of effort.)

Foy Rogers, director, Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, is chairman of the Volunteers-in-Missions Committee. Paul Harrell, director, state Brotherhood Department, and Marjean Patterson, state WMU director, are working with him.

HAMILTON, OHIO, June 19-28 or July 17-28. VBS workers and director of BACKYARD BIBLE CLUB ministry. CONVOY, OHIO, June 5 - July 31. 1/2 volunteers needed to work with a seminary student for 2 months in new work — VBS, Survey.

MILFORD, OHIO, March, April, May. Evangelism team of preacher, missions, and persons to do visitation.

IRONTON, OHIO, May. BRICKLAYERS needed to build SS addition for rapidly growing church. Other CONSTRUCTION needed anytime in summer.

REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO, June. BACKYARD BIBLE CLUB - ACTION PROGRAM. TEACHER TRAINING class, work with choir give devotions.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, Summer. Church WEEKDAY MINISTRY for ELDERLY, direct CHILDREN's church.

NORWALK, OHIO, July 23-Aug. 20. Follow-up work of seminary team-combine VISITATION: INTERIM PASTOR.

FREMONT, OHIO, July 23-August 20? VISITATION, PREACHING — follow-up on work of seminary team.

OBERLIN, OHIO, July 23-? Retired pastor needed to preach and continue work of seminary team.

ZANESVILLE, OHIO, July 9-22. VBS: VISITATION/SURVEY; BACKYARD BIBLE CLUB — possibly ACTION program.

BOWLING GREEN, OHIO, March, June. VBS: VISITATION/SURVEY, ACTION campaign.

TOLEDO, OHIO, Summer. VBS: VISITATION/SURVEY LEADERSHIP TRAINING in establishing new chapel in university area.

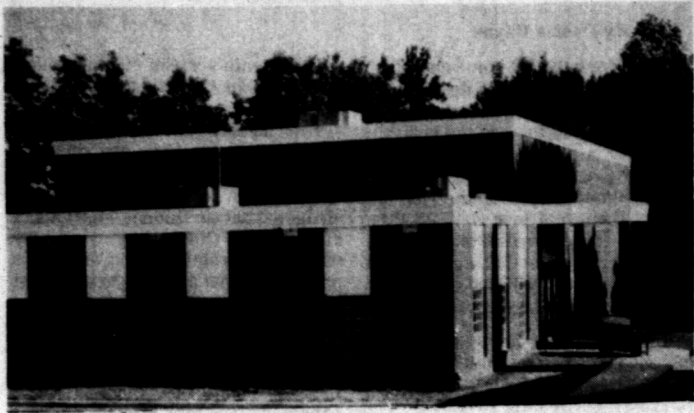
TOLEDO, OHIO, June 11-25 or July 9-23. VBS: VISITATION in starting new mission.

HICKSVILLE, OHIO, Summer. MUSIC — help church music director in starting church choir and general music program.

NORTH OLMSTED, OHIO, June 26-July 28. BUS DRIVERS for VBS; VISITATION; Bricklayers.

WILLIAMSBURG, OHIO, Summer, Fall. VBS: VISITATION/SURVEY in STARTING NEW CHURCH.

Poplar Springs Drive Celebrates 95th Year



The W. B. Abel Christian Activities Building will be dedicated on March 19 at Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian. It is named for a former pastor of the church.

Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian, has set March 12-19 as a week of remembrance to celebrate the church's 95th anniversary. The theme for the celebration is "To God Be The Glory" inspired by Ephesians 3:14-21.

The week will begin with a special service at 10:45 a. m. March 12, with Pastor James A. Ruffin speaking. At 6 p. m., Mar. 12, the church will have an anniversary celebration and reception in the fellowship hall.



LIFE DEACONS of Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian, stand on original steps leading to the site of the first church building in 2600 block on 38th Street. First row, left to right: Gordon Shamburger, Earl Snowden. Second row: O. L. Litchfield. Top row: C. D. Marbury, Jack E. Stack.

Harold E. O'Chester, pastor 1963-1969, Friday; and Bill Causey, pastor 1957-1963, Saturday.

A reception honoring each pastor and his family will be held after the service at which he speaks. A silver card tray inscribed with words of appreciation will be presented.

Climaxing the week will be Victory Sunday, March 19, with Pastor Ruffin speaking at the 10:45 a. m. service and a "Framing of the Notes" signifying the church paying off the indebtedness on all property. Following at 12 will be a covered dish luncheon in the Fellowship Hall.

At 1:30 J. E. Stack, life deacon, will speak at the dedication service for the W. B. Abel Christian Activities Building. Jack Cochran, present minister of music and youth, will coordinate a concert with the church choir featuring Russell Bishop, baritone soloist, for the 7 p. m. service.

A booklet commemorating the "Week of Remembrance — To God Be The Glory" celebration has been prepared for each of the 1000 plus members of the church. The book will be a compilation of "through the years" photographs of church activities, pastor, church leadership and a historical sketch.

In 1883 a small band of Baptists met at Poplar Springs and organized a Baptist church. Services were held in a small schoolhouse for several years with no regular pastor.

After the schoolhouse burned, members worshipped in an old store building. Later they met in the Methodist

Non-Catholics In Argentina Must Register

BUENOS AIRES (RNS) — The Argentina government has decreed that all religions except Roman Catholicism must register with the state or be barred from legally conducting their activities throughout the country.

The decree, published by some newspapers here, will not take effect for a month when it will appear in the government's official bulletin. Religious groups will then have 90 days to register with the government's Foreign Ministry.

The Catholic Church, the official religion of Argentina (which is about 90 per cent Catholic), was not affected by the decree. A 1966 agreement between Argentina and the Vatican reaffirming the Church's right to function in this country still stands.

The Foreign Ministry — now part of the government of Gen. Jorge Rafael Videla — has maintained a list of religious bodies since 1950. But the new law indicates that religions already registered must re-register.

Besides Roman Catholics in Argentina, there are about 600,000 Jews and at least 500,000 Protestants of various denominations. Three religious groups have already been outlawed.

An apple a day really does help keep the doctor away. Dr. N. Sasaki, of Japan's Hirosaki University reports in the British Medical News that an apple a day may help keep down high blood pressure, which is associated with heart attacks. When Japanese doctors put some paddy field workers with high blood pressure on a 10-day apple diet, they found there was a "significant drop in blood pressure."

Pulaski Honors J. C. Johnson

Pulaski Baptists honored J. C. Johnson on Feb. 19.

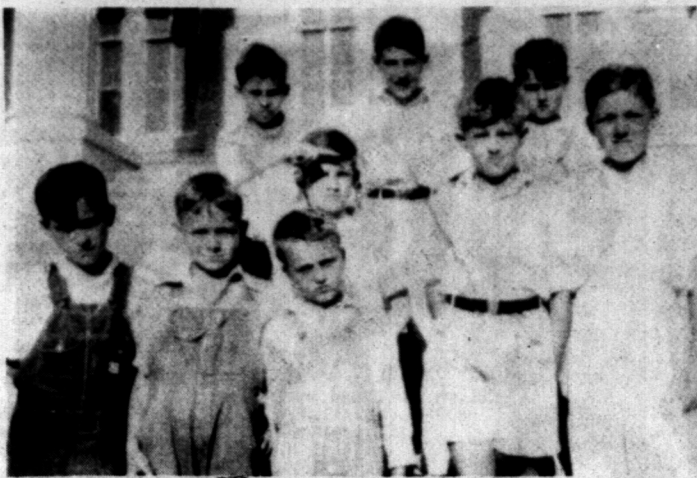
Johnson has been a deacon at the church since 1926; he was Sunday school director many years, and adult Sunday School teacher over 25 years. He is retired school superintendent, Morton Attendance Center.

David Holt, pastor at Pulaski, presented Johnson a certificate in recognition of long service, and a book, *Better Than Gold*.

Aaron Lewis, former student of Johnson and a former member of the Pulaski Church, was the speaker. He is now a teacher at Fryers Baptist High School, Memphis, TN.

The song service included Johnson's favorite hymns. Albert Frazier sang "He Touched Me," accompanied by Billy Gilmer. Ressa Frazier sang "Born to Serve the Lord" accompanied by Teresa Holt.

Members of Johnson's family present were Mrs. Ruby Neil Stanfill from Drew, and Mr. and Mrs. James Russell Johnson of Morton, and grandsons Jim and John.



RA's IN THE 1930's at Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian, in Mrs. Henry Braach's class were left to right, front row: Luther Litchfield, Curtis Shumate, Lamar Temple; second row, Robert Branning, Billy Joe Laurence, Bill Brewer; third row, Lee Mayfield, Algie Gartin, and George Temple.

Church, and then erected a building for \$1,250.00.

R. A. Venable was pastor there several times between 1894 and 1920. Under his leadership the first BYPU in Lauderdale County was organized, at Poplar Springs Drive.

During his ministry the church decided to purchase a lot and erect a larger church.

On June 19, 1921 the first services were held in the basement of the new church.

In 1932 when W. B. Abel was pastor the church sanctuary was a white brick structure on the corner of 41st Street and Poplar Springs Drive. The Grandview Mission was started and later constituted into a church.

David Q. Byrd led the church in building the present colonial design sanctuary, dedicated in 1952.

Robert Woody served as pastor from 1954 until 1957. All facets of the church's ministry experienced growth at this time. In 1957 Bill Causey became pastor. The south wing educational unit was built, and a week-day kindergarten ministry was begun.

During the pastorate of Harold E. O'Chester, 1963-1969, the sanctuary was redecorated. Great emphasis was placed on evangelistic outreach.

Wilmer Baker came as pastor in 1969. Extensive improvement of the church grounds was accomplished with the moving of two houses on church property facing Poplar Springs Drive.

December 1972, James A. Ruffin assumed the pastorate. The church since then has built a Christian Activities Building and retired all church debts.

County Line Looks Toward 150th Birthday

County Line, Crystal Springs, is making preliminary plans for celebrating the 150th anniversary of the church, May 28.

The anniversary date was set to coincide with annual homecoming. Committees have been appointed and are at work.

More information on this will be published at a later date.

Habits come in three classifications: Good, bad, and those you are just now trying out. News, Terra Alta, W. Va.

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NAMES IN THE NEWS



Robin H. Mathis (left), manager of Houston's radio station WPCF-AM-FM, a member of the Radio and Television Commission's board of trustees, greeted Billy Graham during a recent meeting in Fort Worth. Graham was there to accept a Distinguished Communications Medal and speak during the annual Abe Lincoln Awards program. Paul M. Stevens (right), Commission president, originated the Awards as a way for Baptists to thank secular broadcasters for more than \$11 million worth of free time for such Baptist programs as "The Baptist Hour," "Powerline," and others. — Radio-TV Commission photo

Dave Simmons, will speak at Van Winkle Church, Jackson, on Wed. March 15, at 7 p. m. prayer service and at 8:30 p. m. in the Family Life Center. Simmons played in the National Football League four years with Dallas Cowboys.

Since then he has attended Dallas Seminary and worked with Campus Crusade for Christ. He is now founder and leader of Kings Arrow Ranch at Lumberton, which reaches children 8-15 for activities such as Bible study, football, basketball, baseball, horseback riding, riflery, archery, campfires, swimming, leatherwork, canoeing, and trampoline. Herman Milner is Van Winkle pastor.

Jon Meek, director for the Division of Missions, Baptist Convention of New York, spoke at the home missions banquet at First, Canton, on March 7. He is a native of Mississippi.

First Church of Ridgeland licensed Lee Shaw, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Shaw, Jr., to the gospel ministry on Feb. 12. Now at tending Hinds Junior College, Shaw plans to become a student at Mississippi College this fall. He is available to speak to youth groups or to preach. W. Everette Martin is the pastor of First Church, Ridgeland.

Minister Uses 'Kitchen Magic' To Teach Christian Principles

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (RNS) — Larry Glasco, children's minister at the First Friends Quaker Church, makes candles disappear. And he displays unbreakable balloons.

The unbreakable balloons demonstrate an abstract principle, he said: that God protects you. And the disappearing candles show the youngsters that if they don't use their religion and pass it on to someone else, they are in danger of losing it.

These and other "kitchen magic" tricks really impress Glasco's young congregation.

A particular favorite is the demonstration that green is for envy and red for anger. If you do not control these destructive emotions, they will fester and grow inside you, he tells them. And the children see this for themselves when he mixes vinegar and soda, pours in some red food coloring and — presto — there is red anger foaming before their very eyes.

"Anything I can use to illustrate the point, I'll use," he says. "This just happens to be the way I can do it best."

He keeps the children actively involved, too. "They brought rocks to church with them one Sunday and built their own altar the way they used to do it in the Old Testament," Mr. Glasco said. And the organist and pianist are both children; if a few sour notes are struck, nobody seems to mind.

Another incentive: when a child memorizes the names of the books of the Old Testament, he gets a Bible.

"Become" is Mr. Glasco's favorite word. "I tell the children they are always learning and developing, and that they should become better than they were yesterday."

The youngsters say they enjoy their minister's tricks and visual effects, but more important, it helps them to learn and to remember the lesson he is illustrating.

Grady Wilson To Speak On Evangelism Night at Marks

Grady Wilson, associate evangelist in the Billy Graham Evangelism Association, will speak in Marks on March 17. The Quitman County Association will have "Evangelism Emphasis Night" on that date at First Church, Marks. The program, entirely on evangelism, will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Calvary To Honor John Carter

Calvary Church, Newton, will pay special tribute at 11 a.m., on Mar. 12 to Dr. and Mrs. John F. Carter who recently celebrated birthdays — Carter's 90th.

Author of *A Layman's Harmony of the Gospels* and numerous other religious works, Carter for many years was an active member of the Clarke College faculty, in which capacity he served until 1977.

He and Mrs. Carter are two of the members who started the mission which later became Calvary Church.

A reception honoring the Carters will be held from 2 until 4 p.m. at the Calvary Family Life Center.

To friends of this couple, the church extends a special invitation to attend these events on March 12.

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Just For The Record

Paynes Church near Charleston is getting ready for Lay Renewal Weekend, April 7, 8, and 9. The coordinator for the weekend will be Sydney Ellis of Greenville. He will be assisted by Sam Dees of Panther Burn. Preparation groups met Sunday, Feb. 5, at 2 p.m. Walter Simmons is the pastor.

Immanuel Church, Hattiesburg, has installed a telephone system to be manned by volunteers. The main purpose of this is to call widows, widowers, sick, and shut-ins each day to check on them. In conjunction with the telephone program a prayer room has been opened. People go there daily to pray for needs that are revealed through the telephone contacts. Phil T. Harris is new pastor at Immanuel.

The Concord Choir of First Church, Columbiana, Ala., will be guests of Florence, First, youth March 10-12. The guest choir, directed by Tom Stoker, is composed of middle school youth and includes a handbell choir.

The North Columbia Church, under the leadership of the O. E. Thompson, interim pastor, has given a record Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. A goal of \$750.00 was reached and the latest count shows a total of \$857.79 given.

First Church of Lyman, Gulfport, has given a record-breaking \$2,031.50 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The goal had been set by the church at \$1,000. This is the largest amount the church has ever contributed to this special offering. Patrick Henry is the pastor.



CALVARY CHURCH, QUITMAN, broke ground Feb. 19 for a new pastor's home. The Building Committee, top photo, are R. C. Whitley, Charles Wright, Contractor Dwight Napp, Ray McKenzie, Pastor Wayne Wigley, Becky Mathis, H. L. Beckman, and (not pictured), Linda Ivy. In photo at left are two charter members at Calvary, Estelle Harris and Mrs. Joe Melton. Other charter members could not attend because of illness. The church was organized in 1964.



Mount Olive Church, Carroll County, held a Valentine Youth Banquet on Feb. 18. Forty-four young people attended. Dewitt Cutts, Weir, presented a film, entertainment was provided by Wilton A. Neal from Carrollton. Ann Alford and Danny Cox were crowned Queen and King of the occasion.

Adults of First Church, Lauderdale were invited to a banquet Feb. 14 in the church recreation hall. Forty-two were present to hear L. A. Green, speaker.

Woody Godwin, Cape Girardeau, Mo., sang. Roger Carlisle led in prayer. Ruth Sunday School class and Joy Sunday School class each gave a birthday gift to Charlette Bishop, pastor's wife.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Boutwell, the oldest couple in the church, were presented with a corsage and boutonniere. Mrs. Boutwell, recreational leader, directed the program. Jerry Bishop is pastor.

The Second Annual Pastor — Staff — Spouse Luncheon of the Warren County Association was held at Bonanza, Vicksburg, on Feb. 20 with Jasper Collins, president of the Ministers' Conference presiding. Fifty-six people present represented ten of 14 churches.

John G. McCall, First Church, Vicksburg, was recognized as pastor with the longest pastorate, 25 years. Mrs. Walter Hollis, church and financial secretary of First Church, Vicksburg was recognized as the staff member with the longest period of service, 30 years.



The chairman of the George County Association Retreat Committee, J. E. Pope, on the left, made the portrait presentation to Mrs. Hester, far right. Looking on are Mrs. Hester's daughter, Mrs. Frances Malone and her granddaughter, Ruth Ann Malone, both of Sumrall, and Wm. Bryce Evans, pastor of Agricola Church.

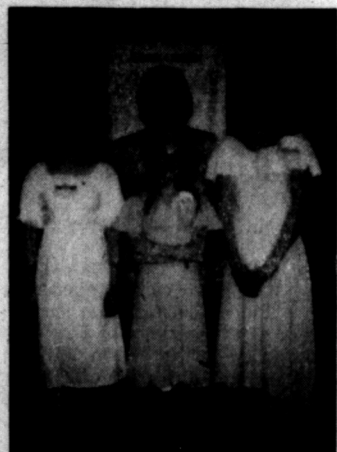
George Association Presents Portrait To Pearle Hester

Mrs. Pearle Hester was honored on her 86th birthday by the George County Baptist Association, her family and friends with a dinner on the ground and open house at the George County Baptist Cedar Creek Retreat. The association presented a portrait of Mrs. Hester for the retreat.

Mrs. Hester gave the land, approximately 15 acres, on which the Cedar Creek Retreat building was constructed. The portrait will hang permanently in the Conference Building that provides complete cooking and

eating facilities, shower and restroom facilities for groups of 100 or less. Mrs. Hester's dream is coming true as young and old alike enjoy swimming in the creek, hiking along the nature trails and enjoying with recreation and worship experiences along the sandy banks of the creek.

The original chairman of the Cedar Creek Baptist Retreat Committee, Wm. Bryce Evans, wrote a poem in honor of Mrs. Hester on her special day.



NEW GARDEN CHURCH, TATE COUNTY, held its first Acteen recognition service on Feb. 26. Left to right; first row, Melinda Ferguson. Second Row: Mrs. Lee Tatum, Acteen leader; Gary Crowell, pastor; Cathy Roberts, Melinda and Cathy were crowned Queens. They plan to attend Queen's Court, Camp Garaywa, March 10-12. Mrs. Max B. Graham is WMU director.

Every man who holds a high position gets there through "luck." All he has to do is: Cultivate a pleasing personality, make himself well liked by others, sow seeds of kindness and good cheer wherever he goes, perform his work better than the "unlucky" man, and render his best service regardless of salary. Luck does the rest. — SUNSHINE MAGAZINE

Study Course Adds Media Center Award

NASHVILLE — A diploma for workers in church media centers has been added to the Church Study Course program by the church library department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Church members may earn the Media Services Diploma with a media services seal or a media skills teacher-leader seal.

CLASSIFIED

ATTENTION MUSICIANS:

A new christian rock group is being organized. Need: bass player, keyboard player, female vocalist, guitarist. Only dedicated Christian professional musicians. Contact: Tena Clark, Phone (601) 735-2224.

BROADMAN PRESENTS

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E. Glenn Hinson
Based on New Testament interpretation of the church, this book presents its unique role in modern society as a pluralistic community, worshipping, witnessing, serving, and challenging within the world. \$5.95

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HERE AT THY TABLE, LORD
Alton H. McEachern
Beginning with an interpretation of passages relating to the Lord's Supper, this book continues with suggestions and resources for enrichment, and concludes with 30 meditations for the observance. paperback, \$2.75

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James Graves, Lewis Lamplsey, Delos Sharpton
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Lloyd Householder and John Hendrix
A basic book for pastors and other church leaders on training members in Christian Discipleship. \$6.95

BOOK STORES from BROADMAN

Baptists Overseas Exceed One Million

RICHMOND (BP) — Baptists overseas in churches related to Southern Baptist mission work numbered more than one million at the end of 1977, an addition of more than 165,000 people during last year.

In addition to increases in church membership, reports from overseas Southern Baptist mission organizations indicate that baptisms and the number of churches also increased substantially. While church membership was up more than 10 percent, baptisms increased more than 15 percent, and number of churches about 6 percent.

These figures compare favorably with the 1976 increases of 4.6 percent in baptisms, 1.2 percent in membership, and 5.7 percent in number of churches.

"This is a most encouraging increase in baptisms," said Winston Crawley, director of the overseas division of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. "In fact, it is an outstanding gain," he added. "However, growth in the number of churches seems to be holding fairly steady and needs to increase if we're to move in the direction of a 10-fold increase by the end of the century."

Crawley noted that reports indicate that the number of baptisms and church membership in some countries seem to have dropped in 1977, but cautioned that this may be due to incomplete or inaccurate reports.

"In many countries keeping accurate church records is not part of their

culture," he explained. "In those cases, approximate numbers are sometimes reported."

Areas where Baptist growth has been particularly significant include countries in Africa, parts of the Middle East, and East Asia.

Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, and Togo all reported increases of at least 25 percent. In Kenya, baptisms more than doubled, jumping from 2,844 in 1976 to 6,938 in 1977. Crawley attributed increase in these African countries to a "religious change that seems to be sweeping the entire continent." Many people who previously held to tribal religions are moving to urban areas and embracing other religions, he said. Large numbers of these are becoming Christians.

Although the actual number of baptisms is small in Middle East countries, increases are proportionately substantial. Iran, Jordan, Lebanon and Libya all reported increases in excess of 175 percent, and Turkey reported an 80 percent increase.

Other countries which reported significant increases in baptisms include Taiwan and Singapore in East and Southeast Asia; Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Mexico, Panama and Ecuador in Latin America; and Austria and Belgium in Europe.

Other year-end figures include total income for the Foreign Mission Board of nearly \$63 million, an increase of 7.96 percent over 1976.

Good Sowing Reaps Reward For Missionary Orvil Reid

DALLAS (BP) — The Biblical promise that we reap what we sow has been brought home in miraculous fashion for the Orvil Reids, retired Southern Baptist missionaries to Mexico.

During Reid's early days as a missionary in Guadalajara, he met and befriended a 12-year-old boy named Jose Gonzalez who had come to the city to find work. Gonzalez was sleeping in the ovens of a bakery after they cooled at night.

The boy lived in the student home Reid had started, working in the Baptist print shop while going to school. He eventually graduated from medical school at the University of Guadalajara and became a leading internist and cardiologist at the Mexican American Hospital, opened in 1958 by E. Lamar Cole, now a Dallas bone

specialist.

Reid, 69, recently suffered a stroke while in Dallas giving physical fitness demonstrations and anti-vice messages in churches and schools. His wife, Alma, wondering whom to call for medical aid, thought, "Oh, if only Jose Gonzalez were here."

She called Cole, but the man who answered the phone wasn't he. It was Gonzalez, in Dallas to invite Cole to participate in the 20th anniversary celebration of the Baptist hospital in Guadalajara.

Both doctors raced to the aid of their stricken friend. Within minutes, they had him in Methodist Hospital where he is undergoing therapy for his partially paralyzed left arm. Doctors said the prognosis for Reid's recovery is greatly enhanced by his superior physical condition.



East Pleasant Grove Burns Note

East Pleasant Grove Church, Quitman, Clarke Association, recently held a note burning ceremony. Jimmy Talley, pastor, and two former pastors, L. D. Ogle and T. E. Williams, assisted in the ceremony. The church constructed a pastory, under the leadership of Rev. T. E. Williams in 1975 and 1976 that cost \$28,000. The note, burned Dec. 18, 1977, showed the church to be free of debt. During the time of construction and paying for the pastory, the church building was bricked, with no indebtedness. The church is now developing plans for the construction of four much needed Sunday School classrooms. "A revival spirit is felt in the church fellowship and God is blessing in a mighty way under the leadership of their able pastor, Jimmy Talley," stated W. W. Boggan, director of missions.

Immanuel Church, Hattiesburg, has called Phil T. Harris as pastor. Harris came to the state from Crestview, Fla., where he was pastor of Forrest Hill Church.

Harris has been pastor of churches in Crestview and Andalusia, Ala. He served in the Air Force for 20 years, and while stationed in Tokyo, was pastor there.

With him in Hattiesburg are his wife, Jean, daughter Lisa, who is the church secretary, and son Jeffrey. Two married daughters live out of state.

Jerry Carter is the new minister of music and education at First Church, Bruce. He moved to Bruce from Tuscaloosa, Ala., where he was minister of music and youth director for Ridgecrest Church three years. He received the bachelor's and master's degree in music education from the University of Alabama. While minister of music and youth at Wynnton Church, Columbus, Ga., he was instructor in voice and music theory and composition at Andrew College, Cuthbert, Ga.

Alben Gaston, his wife Vickie, daughter Kerrie and son Paul, moved into the Calvary Church pastory at Waynesboro on Feb. 20. Calvary had been without a pastor for six months.

Gaston moved from Hollywood Church, Memphis, where he served as associate pastor.

He is a native of Grand Bay, Alabama and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Mississippi College, and Master of Theology degree from Mid-America Seminary in Memphis. Members of the Calvary church welcomed the Gastons with a pantry pounding.

John E. Tucker, Jr. has been called as minister of activities at First Church, Grenada. John Lee Taylor is pastor.

Kenneth C. Leach, for seven years pastor of Trinity Church, Laurel, has moved to the pastorate of Conehatta

Church in Conehatta.

Under Leach's leadership the Trinity Church has recorded 75 baptisms, built a new sanctuary, and started a bus ministry. The church has sponsored several unusual mission projects. They have supported and staffed a ministry to Indians at the Bogue Homa Church near Sandersville. For three summers representatives from Trinity have worked in Bible schools in Mexico and Honduras. The Acteens and RAs have been supporting a student at the Baptist seminary in Mexico City. An adult Bible class is conducted weekly in an apartment complex near Trinity.

Delta City Church has called E. F. Hall, III, as pastor. On February 26, the church ordained Hall to the gospel ministry. He and his wife, Beverly, are former members of Madison Church, Billy McKay, pastor. During the ordination service, McKay delivered the charge to Hall. Mickey Reynolds, pastor of Deer Creek Church in Rolling Fork, delivered the charge to the church.

Revival Dates

Morgan City Church: March 12-15; Glenn Simmons, pastor, bringing the messages; Mike Scott of Meridian, leading the singing; services at 11 Sunday morning and 7 each evening; services Mon. - Fri., at 10 a.m.

Mantee Church: March 19-24; D. L. Lowrie preaching pre-Easter services from Isaiah 53; Huel T. Moseley, leading the music; services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Dennis L. Johnsey, pastor.

First Church, Bruce: March 12-17; at 7:30 p.m.; Raymond A. Wilson, pastor of First Church, Bruce, evangelist; Jerry W. Carter, minister of music and education at First, Bruce, singer.

Big Ridge Church, Biloxi: Mar. 10-12; Jim Thrash, pastor of Pass Road, Gulfport, evangelist; Bobby McClellan, minister of music, Pass Road, singer; services 7:15 p.m. Fri. and Sat. Sunday services 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Robert M. Carlisle, pastor.

Devotional

The Work Of Intercession

By John R. Claypool, Pastor, Northminster, Jackson

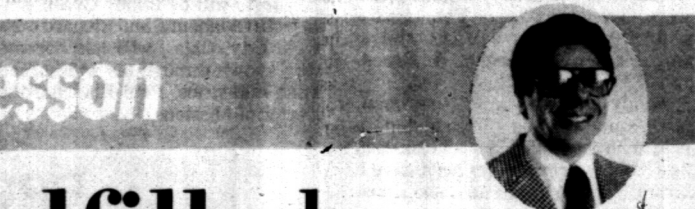
During my days of adolescent struggle, I questioned the validity of intercessory prayer. "If God is all-knowing and all-loving, as the Bible claims," I thought, "why do I need to pray for another?" Surely my prayers do not inform God or move Him to act in ways He would not otherwise." I conceded that perhaps praying for another did something for me in deepening my sensitivity for that one, but this was all. And then I came across the following episode.

Andrew Whyte found himself praying one night for a fellow minister who lay at death's door. He was earnestly pleading that this man's life be spared. When a voice said to him: "How serious are you about this matter? Would you be willing to give up half the years that you have left to prolong this one's life?"

The question so startled Whyte that he got up off his knees and began to pace around the room. It suddenly occurred to him that maybe there was more to intercession than simply asking Another to do certain things. After serious soul-searching and deliberation, he reported getting back on his knees and saying: "Yes! I am so anxious that my friend be spared that I hereby relinquish half the years that I have left that they might be added to him." He wrote in his journal that he got up off his knees not knowing what the outcome of such a prayer would be.

This experience shed a whole new light for me on the mystery of intercession. Perhaps this is yet another way that our power can alter the situation of others. We accept the fact that by exerting our physical and economic strength, that others are affected. My willingness to carry some of the load crushing you or using my money to pay your bills would tangibly alter your situation. But I also possess a pool of spiritual and psychic energy. If I choose to share some of this with you through God rather than using it myself, perhaps this gives even an omnipotent God more to work with than otherwise be the case.

I do not claim this utterly "explains" the mystery of intercession, but it suggests that along with physical assistance and economic help, intercession may be yet another way of our interacting with another. The question becomes: "Do I really care enough to give part of myself away?" It is one thing to ask God "to foot the bill" in helping another. It is something else when like Whyte, I take part of my own potency and give it through God to another.



Uniform Lesson

Promise Fulfilled

By Hardy R. Denham, Jr.,
First, Newton
Acts 2:1-4, 36-42

There has been a renewed interest in the Holy Spirit in many churches during the last several years. In fact, the charismatic movement has resulted in the disruption of harmony and division of churches. Since the Holy Spirit's purpose is to glorify Christ (John 15:26) and empower Christians for witnessing, it is obvious that much of the activity associated with the charismatic movement is not of God.

The Holy Spirit has a ministry. Not only is He the presence of Christ in the life of believers, He is the source of the power of God for Christian service. Jesus promised the Spirit and that promise was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost.

I. CONTROLLED BY THE SPIRIT Verses 1-4a

The promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost (verse 1). Pentecost means "fiftieth" and came fifty days after Passover. It commemorated the giving of the Law on Mt. Sinai and gratitude for the harvest. Pentecost was the largest attended feast day on the Jewish calendar. All work was prohibited on that day (Leviticus 23:21; Numbers 28:26).

Two symbols were associated with the coming of the Spirit (verses 2-3). The sound of wind symbolized the power of the Holy Spirit while the tongues of fire represented the presence of God. The Bible does not say that the wind and fire were literal. There was a sound like wind and "tongues as of fire."

The result of the coming of the Holy Spirit is that the disciples were filled with His power (verse 4a). To be filled with the Spirit means to be controlled by Him. Being filled with the Spirit was a repeated experience for these saints, rather than a continuous condition of life (see Acts 4:8, 31; 7:55; 11:24). The Bible commands believers to be continuously filled (Ephesians 5:18), but our experience is one of periodic fillings.

II. COMMUNICATION BY THE SPIRIT — Verses 4b-36

The disciples began to speak in other tongues (verse 4a). These were not

unknown tongues for they were understood by people from different parts of the Roman world (verses 5-6). The word "tongues" is *dialekto* (dialect) and refers to a spoken language. The ability to overcome language barriers was because of the Spirit. The filling of the Spirit is always related to witnessing. The filling of the Spirit is not for the purpose of having an ecstatic experience, but to empower the Christian to be a witness (Acts 1:8).

The Spirit-filled believers on Pentecost communicated the gospel to the multitudes in Jerusalem for the feast. The witness given was both general (verses 5-13) and specific (verses 14-36). The sermon preached by Peter was the first of several apostolic sermons recorded in The Acts. Peter declared that prophecy was being fulfilled that day (verses 16-21), and gave emphasis to the death and resurrection of Jesus (verses 23-24, 31-32). The heart of apostolic preaching was the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.

Peter presented Jesus as both Lord and Christ (verses 36). He is the promised One from God who is none other than God Himself. Further, the preacher courageously charged the multitude with guilt concerning Christ's crucifixion. Some of these were the ones who had cried out, "crucify Him" (Matthew 27:22).

III. THE CONVICTION BY THE SPIRIT — Verses 37-42

When many of the people heard the witness to Christ given by Peter and the disciples, they "were cut to the heart" (verse 37). These words speak of a conviction caused by the Holy Spirit as the people heard the truth (refer John 16:7-10). In their conviction they cried out, "What shall we do?" Did Peter finish his sermon, or were these people so gripped by conviction that they cried out, thus interrupting the message?

In response to their question, Peter commanded repentance and baptism (verse 38). This command is often used as a proof text for baptismal regeneration, or the fact that baptism is necessary for salvation. The argument hinges on the preposition "for" which can also be translated because of, on the basis of, with respect to or as

the result of. Baptism, therefore, was commanded on the basis of an experience of repentance which had resulted in the forgiveness of sins. Those baptized were people who received the word (verse 41). Baptism is not essential for salvation, but baptism is important. The New Testament teaches that baptism is a public confession of faith in which one declares his identification with the Christ who died and was raised (Romans 6:3-4).

Those who were convicted and converted on the day of Pentecost were instructed in the faith and faithful in fellowship (verse 42). Salvation is not an end, but a beginning. Having been born into the family of God through faith in the Lord Jesus, the Christian is to grow in his knowledge of Christ and His word and become an active participant with other believers in the life of the church. Fellowship means jointly participating or sharing, and the breaking of bread refers to fellowship meals which probably included the Lord's Supper.

Life and Work Lesson

Victim Or Victor?

By Bill Duncan, Long Beach, First
John 19:17-42

Much has been written about the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Some people see it as an unfortunate and unfair crime against an innocent man who was "too good a teacher for His own good." Others see it as the world's most important event.

There was no more terrible death than the death by crucifixion. Even the violent Romans regarded it with a shudder of horror. Crucifixion was originally a Persian method of execution. The Persians did not want to defile the body so they nailed the victim to a cross and left him to die there.

It was unthinkable that a Roman citizen should die such a death. Crucifixion was never used as a method of execution in Italy. The execution was always soon after the fateful sentence.

However scourging always preceded crucifixion. As a result most of the persons to be crucified could not carry their heavy crosses because of weakness.

In Jerusalem, the place of the execution was outside the city wall in an area called Golgotha which was a Hebrew name for "a place of the skull." It was most likely named Golgotha because it

was a hill which was shaped like a skull.

By Roman law a criminal was to hang upon his cross until he died from hunger, thirst, and exposure. The torture could last for days. But the Jewish law said the bodies had to be taken down and buried by nightfall. This is why it became the custom to break the legs of the victims — to hurry death. But Jesus died before they could break His bones.

We are reminded that a person was walked through the streets with a placard carried by someone. The placard told the crime for which he was to die. This was part of the humility he was put through as well as to show that crime does not pay. Barclay says that the placard was to seek someone who would still bear witness in his favor. If someone did come forward, the procession was halted and the case retried.

There is no doubt that Pilate put the inscription on the placard, King of the Jews, to irritate and annoy the Jews. The Jewish leaders repeatedly asked him to remove it but he refused, saying, "What I have written, I have written." The Jews had forced Pilate to crucify Jesus so he was not going to be bullied again. Pilate knew the Jews did



Two Churches Get Together For WMU

Members of the recently organized Pine Forest and Union Baptist Church Woman's Missionary Union are pictured at the monthly meeting of the organization. The group in Montgomery Association set a goal of \$500 for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering and exceeded this with a contribution of \$1230 for the 27 members. Howard Davis is pastor of the two churches.

plete. These were the last words of Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus might have meant that He had gone His limit, having won nothing but defeat, shame, and death. But this was not in reality a wall of despair. It was uttered in the thrill of an irrepressible joy. The joy of Jesus was the joy of a man who had completed the task of supreme worth. He had not merely brought this task to an end; he had finished it. A few days before, Jesus had prayed, "I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do." Now He was shouting the same triumphant word from the cross.

It is related that Hudson Taylor on a holiday was left alone in his teenage youth. Time hung rather heavy on his hands. Therefore he hunted for something to read. He found a tract in which he was interested only because there would be a story in it. But as he read the tract, he came for the first time upon this word, the finished work of Christ. It laid hold of his youthful heart.

"Then there dawned upon me the conviction," he writes, "that there was nothing for me to do but fall upon my knees, accept the Savior, and praise Him forevermore."

From the moment of death, all the harsh and cruel treatment was ended for Jesus, all that could be done with the lifeless body was done in reverent, loving care. It was the hands of Joseph of Arimathea that took His body down from the cross. Nicodemus helped to prepare the body for burial. The body was wrapped in linen cloth, with the customary spice being used and then laid in the tomb.

For Jesus, the life was over and the battle was won. Even on the cross He knew the joy of victory, and the rest of a man who had completed his task. He died in peace.